

# SYRACUSE

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

VOL. 2, NO. 2

APRIL 1986

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

A LOOK AT STUDENT LIFE, PAGE 9



## Who Are You? What Are We?

The readers of this magazine—that is, you—are a large and diverse lot. You number more than 200,000; you live in every state of the nation and in several foreign countries; you work in every conceivable profession; and you range in age from your early 20s to your late 90s, or maybe beyond.

Presumably, one of the things you have in common is an interest in Syracuse University, but even that varies. Some of you—recent alumni, for example—know the University well. Others, who graduated in earlier years and have not visited the campus since, remember a much different place. Still others—parents and members of that vaguely defined group we call “friends”—don’t know much about Syracuse and perhaps don’t even want to.

As editor of this magazine, I often grapple with the diversity that you, my readers, represent, and I sometimes wonder what I can possibly assemble in each issue that will interest all of you. The only thing I know for certain is that, interested or not, each of you receives this magazine.

On reflection, however, I must confess that even that fact is laced with ambiguity. Surely, all of you receive a number of magazines in your homes or offices, and you know why you get them: You *subscribe* to them, because you are interested in their subject matter and enjoy reading them.

This magazine, on the other hand, arrives without your having asked for it. You don’t subscribe to it, you certainly don’t pay for it (no one does), and you may not even be sure why we’re sending it to you, or how often, or what it’s really about. Because it comes to you free and unsolicited, some of you may even wonder if it’s a magazine at all or another glossy catalog of the sort that increasingly clutter our mailboxes.

Those questions bother me, so I would like to answer them for you.

First the facts. We publish *Syracuse University Magazine* three times a year—in November, April, and July—and send it to everyone we think is interested in the University. That includes alumni, parents, friends, and faculty and staff members, as well as some corporations, foundations, and government officials. We also send some issues to parents of students who have applied to Syracuse but haven’t yet decided to attend. With those issues, our circulation reaches

250,000, which is larger than such national magazines as *Harpers*, *New Republic*, and *The Nation*.

What is the magazine about? It’s about Syracuse University—not just the physical university that exists in Syracuse, but the one that lives in the memories of our alumni, the striving of our students, the teaching and research of our faculty, and the accomplishments of our graduates. That’s a complicated subject, so we approach it in a variety of ways. We report on news, people, and ideas; we seek out stories written by faculty members and alumni, as well as our own staff; and we present them as feature articles, profiles, news stories, and personal points of view.

Is the result a magazine? I believe it is. Although it lacks the timeliness of *Newsweek* or the clear focus of *Sports Illustrated*, for example, it has much in common with another popular magazine: *Smithsonian*, the monthly publication of the Smithsonian Institution.

The purpose of *Smithsonian*, as I understand it, is to offer its readers a kind of behind-the-scenes guided tour of the Smithsonian Institution, to reveal its wealth of resources and the ideas that reside in them.

That same purpose drives this magazine. Certainly, I want *Syracuse University Magazine* to be interesting; but even more, I want it to convey the excitement, the ideas, and the personal commitment that make up Syracuse University. With each issue, I try to provide some new insight into what this university is, what it is doing, and why it is important.

In the end, it is not the magazine, but the *University*, that we try to send to you.



David May  
Editor

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### Photographs

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## UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

**2 Communications.** "To Heal a Nation," alumnus Joel Swerdlow's article about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, has drawn unprecedented reader response.

**4 The University.** U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato has helped to arrange a \$12-million federal appropriation for a proposed building on campus—a new home for computer studies and collaborative research. Also, SU has its first Rhodes scholar.

**9 Outside the Classroom.** A college education would not be complete without the activities and interests that students pursue on their own.

**16 The Busiest Place on Campus.** No building houses a more dynamic cross section of campus activity than the new Schine Student Center. Open less than a year, it has already become the University's favorite place to meet, eat, shop, or even interview for a job.



ESF, PAGE 26



RICHARD MERKIN AT THE LOWE GALLERY, PAGE 22



SCHINE DINING, PAGE 16

**22 Success Comes Home.** Last fall, CBS executive Anthony Malara and painter Richard Merkin joined the ranks of accomplished alumni who return to campus with advice to offer and stories to tell.

**26 What Is ESF?** In its 75th year, the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry is refining both its mission and its public reputation.

**32 Perspectives.** Alumni representative Grace Frary describes the innocence, humor, and occasional poignancy of a prospective student's first questions about Syracuse University.

### On the Cover

Participation in the award-winning Sour Citrus Society pep band is just one way for students to take advantage of the rich University environment, even when they *aren't* hitting a book or attending a lecture. "Outside the Classroom," on pages 9–15, investigates the ways in which student clubs and activities supplement the educational process.



PLAY-BY-PLAY, PAGE 30

**28 SU's Who.** Syracuse people are in the spotlight, whether at center stage or on the sidelines.

**30 Sports Journal.** Doug Logan is the voice of the "Voice of the Orange" and the eyes and ears of SU radio sports fans statewide.